

22 September 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Congressional Action Relating to Supergrades, Scientific-type Positions and Adjustment of the Federal Executive Pay Act of 1956

1. Two related bills have been passed in Congress during the past week: H.R. 7377 by the House of Representatives and S. 1732 by the Senate. A copy of the last print of each bill, before passage, is attached. These bills do not contain the final amendments on the floor immediately prior to passage. Both bills are being considered today, 22 September 1961, in a conference of representatives of the two Houses.

2. H.R. 7377, "An Act To increase the limitation on the number of positions which may be placed in the top grades of the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, and on the number of research and development positions of scientists and engineers for which special rates of pay are authorized, and for other purposes," is broader in scope than the corresponding S. 1732. H.R. 7377 has as its stated purpose: (1) to reaffirm, by a declaration of congressional policy, that requests for additional numbers of supergrade positions are properly within the jurisdiction of the Committees on Post Office and Civil Service and of the Senate and House of Representatives; (2) to increase the number of top level positions in the Federal Government and (3) to amend and adjust the Federal Executive Pay Act of 1956. In keeping therewith, the bill would authorize some 412 new supergrade positions, 184 engineering, scientific and research and development positions, and realine compensation under the Federal Executive Pay Act of 1956 by removing 20 positions from the Federal Executive Pay Act of 1956 and placing them under the Classification Act of 1949. (Since 1956, employees subject to the Classification Act of 1949 have received two increases in compensation but no general increase has been granted for positions under the Federal Executive Pay Act of 1956. This has resulted in situations whereby

certain heads of agencies or bureaus, whose positions are under the Federal Executive Pay Act of 1956, are receiving as much as \$1,000 per year less than their deputies or assistants, who are under the Classification Act of 1949.)

3. S. 1732, "A Bill To increase the limitation on the number of positions that may be placed in the top grades of the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, and the limitation on the number of research and development positions of scientists and engineers for which special rates of pay are authorized; to fix the compensation of hearings examiners; and for other purposes," is concerned primarily with the establishment of additional supergrade and scientific positions and would create 465 new supergrade and 259 new scientific positions.

4. H.R. 7377 was passed by the House of Representatives on 19 September and transmitted to the Senate. S. 1732 was passed by the Senate on 20 September 1961. At that time, the Senate also amended H.R. 7377 by substituting the wording contained in S. 1732. As indicated above, the two bills are in conference on 22 September. A final bill may be anticipated before the close of the session.

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Attachments
OGC/LC: [redacted] (22 Sept 61)

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